

1978 WL 35216 (S.C.A.G.)

Office of the Attorney General

State of South Carolina

November 10, 1978

*1 Mr. Charles S. Morris
Director of Programming Operations
South Carolina Educational Television Network
Drawer L
Millwood Avenue
Columbia, South Carolina 29250

Dear Mr. Morris:

You have recently asked the opinion of this Office concerning whether the distinction recognized in the South Carolina Educational Television Network (SCETV) consent forms [attached hereto] between persons over and under twenty-one (21) years of age should be lowered to eighteen (18) years of age.

[Article XVII, § 14 of the South Carolina Constitution](#) provides that citizens eighteen (18) years of age or older who are not otherwise laboring under a legal disability shall possess full legal rights and responsibilities. See 1974-1975 Opinions of the Attorney General, Number 4017, page 87, which is attached hereto.

Based on the foregoing authority, it is the opinion of this Office that the consent forms used by the SCETV could be changed so as to permit citizens of this State who are eighteen (18) years of age or older to validly execute such forms without the necessity of the consent of a parent or guardian. However, because the cited constitutional provision only applies to 'citizens', it would be advisable to require that when non-citizens are involved reference should be made to the laws of the state of their domicile or residence to determine what is the relevant age of acquiring full legal rights and responsibilities.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Holly
Staff Attorney

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